

Question. In a  $\triangle ABC$ , the median to the side BC is of length  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{11-6\sqrt{3}}}$  and it divides the angle A into angles of  $30^\circ$  and  $45^\circ$ .

Find length of side BC.

[Subjective Type, IIT-JEE 1985.5]

Solution.

From sine law in  $\triangle ADB$ ,

$$\frac{a/2}{\sin 30^\circ} = \frac{AD}{\sin B} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Also, from sine law in  $\triangle ADC$ ,

$$\frac{a/2}{\sin 45^\circ} = \frac{AD}{\sin C} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Now, dividing equation (1) by equation 2:  $\rightarrow$

$$\frac{\sin 45^\circ}{\sin 30^\circ} = \frac{\sin C}{\sin B}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}{1/2} = \frac{C}{b} \quad \left[ \text{Using sine law } \frac{\sin C}{\sin B} = \frac{C}{b} \right]$$

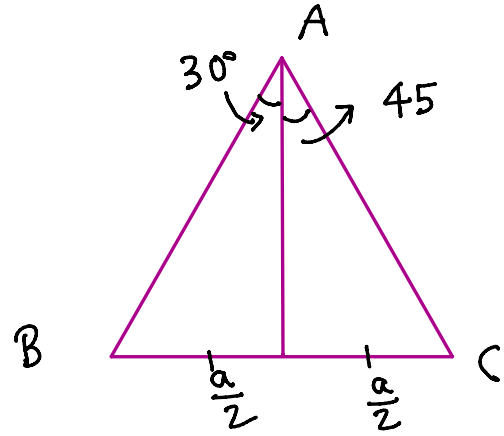
$$\Rightarrow C = b\sqrt{2} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Now, in  $\triangle ABC$ ,

$$\cos A = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 = b^2 + (b\sqrt{2})^2 - 2b \times b\sqrt{2} \times \cos 75^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 = 3b^2 - 2\sqrt{2}b^2 \times \left( \frac{\sqrt{3}-1}{2\sqrt{2}} \right)$$



$$\Rightarrow a^2 = b^2(4 - \sqrt{3}) \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Now, in  $\triangle ADB$ , using Sine Law:  $\rightarrow$

$$\frac{a/2}{\sin 30^\circ} = \frac{AD}{\sin B} \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

By Sine Law,  $\frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{a}{\sin A} = 2R \quad \text{--- (6)}$

$\therefore$  From equation (5):  $\rightarrow$

$$a = \frac{AD}{b/2R}$$

$$\Rightarrow b = AD \times \frac{2R}{a} = AD \times \frac{1}{\sin A}$$

$$= \frac{AD}{\sin 75^\circ}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a^2}{b^2} = \frac{AD^2}{\sin^2 75^\circ} = \frac{1}{11 - 6\sqrt{3}} \times \left( \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3} + 1} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{8}{(4 + 2\sqrt{3})(11 - 6\sqrt{3})} \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

$\therefore$  From equation 4,

$$a^2 = \frac{(4 - \sqrt{3}) \times 8}{(4 + 2\sqrt{3})(11 - 6\sqrt{3})}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{a = b = 2} \quad \underline{\underline{\text{Ans.}}}$$